

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims replaces all previous listing of claims.

1. (Currently Amended) A device for clamping and ablating cardiac tissue comprising:

a first handle member;

a second handle member;

first and second opposed jaws ~~jaw members~~ associated with the first and second handle members, respectively, the jaws ~~jaw members~~ being movable by the handle members between a first open position and a second clamped position;

a first electrical conductive member carried by the first jaw ~~member~~;

a second electrical conductive member carried by the second jaw ~~member~~;

at least one jaw including a surface for engaging tissue clamped between the jaws, the surface comprising insulative material, an aperture extending through the insulative material and the respective conductive member of such jaw being carried at least in part in the jaw and conductive of electrical energy through the aperture to tissue clamped between the jaws; such conductive member having a width within the jaw greater than the width of the aperture and including a solid, electrically conductive surface for engaging cardiac tissue clamped between the jaws.

2. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 1 wherein at least one of the conductive members is between approximately 3 to 8 cm in length and approximately 0.12 to 0.6 mm in width.

3. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 1 wherein at least one of the conductive members comprises gold-plated copper.

4. (Currently Amended) A tissue grasping apparatus

comprising:

first and second grasping jaws, the grasping jaws being relatively moveable between open and closed positions; each jaw including an electrode and a clamping surface in opposed relation with the electrode and clamping surface of the other jaw ~~the electrode of at least one jaw defining an inner lumen~~; the clamping surfaces of the jaws comprising an insulating material, defining an elongated aperture having a width, and at least one of the opposed electrodes being carried at least in part within the jaw, the electrode having a width within the jaw greater than the width of the elongated aperture and including a solid, electrically conductive surface for engaging cardiac tissue clamped between the jaws; and such electrode being connectible to a power source for providing an electrical current through tissue clamped between the electrodes.

5. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 4 wherein at least one of the electrodes is between approximately 3 to 8 cm in length and approximately 0.12 to 0.6 mm in width.

6. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 4 wherein at least one of the electrodes comprises gold-plated copper.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim 4 in which ~~the clamping surface of the at least one jaw comprises an elongated aperture extending through the insulative material along the jaw and the respective electrode of~~ at least one of the jaws

~~is such jaw being~~ carried in the jaw and conductive of electrical energy through the aperture to tissue clamped between the jaws.

10. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 9 in which the aperture comprises a slot extending along at least a portion of such jaw and the electrode of such jaw extends through the slot of such jaw.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 4 in which at least one of the electrodes defines a generally annular cross-sectional shape.

14. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 1 in which at least one of the conductive members defines an inner lumen.

15. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 1 in which at least one of the conductive members defines a generally annular cross-sectional shape.

16. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 1 in which the aperture comprises a slot extending along at least a portion of the jaw.

17. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 1 in which the other jaw includes a surface for engaging tissue clamped between the jaws, the surface comprising insulative material, an aperture extending through the insulative material and the respective conductive member of such other jaw being carried at least in part in the jaw and conductive of electrical energy through the aperture to tissue clamped between the jaws.

18. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 17 in which the aperture in each jaw comprises a slot extending along at least a portion of the jaw and the conductive member in each jaw is elongated.

19. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 18 wherein the conductive member of each jaw extends through the respective slot of such jaw.

20. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 4 in which an electrode of each jaw defines an inner lumen.

21. (Cancelled)

22. (New) The device of claim 1 in which the at least one conductive member is a solid conductive member.

23. (New) The apparatus of claim 4 in which the at least one electrode is a solid electrode.

24. (New) The device of claim 1 in which the at least one conductive member is a T-shaped conductive member.

25. (New) The apparatus of claim 4 in which the at least one electrode is a T-shaped electrode.